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ging bees in the section bee-hive. embracing also improved methods of artificial swarming, whereby the business of bee keeping is rendered more profitable and pleasant." The rearing of bees is becoming a source of profit to farmers, and though without a practical acquaintance with the subject, we should judge it to be for the interest of every bee keeper to own this little manual, and to learn the merits of the section bee-hive described and figured in it.

THE EXTINCT FLORA OF NORTH AMERICA.*—This pamphlet is the climax of the late controversy between Messrs. Meek and Hayden on the one side, and Profs. Marcou and Heer on the other. This controversy made us acquainted with the fact that the familiar forms of the poplar, oak, sassafras, willow, etc., lived in the Cretaceous period; and in the present pamphlet the author, who was also one of the first to assert this truth, reviews the main points of the evidence, and brings forward a numerous list of new species. The Cretaceous period, though the continent had a different outline from the present, and though it was inhabited by animals very distinct from ours, had forests resembling in many of their characteristic trees those of to-day. "Salisburia, Sabal, and Cinnamomum, etc., are indicative of a warmer climate," and are found on the West coast of the continent. "Possibly these genera may hereafter be detected in the plant-beds of Kansas, Nebraska, and New Mexico, but as yet we have no intimation of their existence, and there is nothing now known in the Cretaceous flora of that region which gives it a tropical or even sub-tropical character."

"It will be remembered that this vegetation grew upon a broad continental surface, of which the central portion was considerably elevated. This would give us physical conditions not unlike those of the continent at the present day; and it would seem to be inevitable that the isothermal lines should be curved over the surface somewhat as at present. It may very well happen, therefore, that we shall find the palms and cinnamons restricted to the western margin of the Cretaceous continent. It will be seen by the notes now given of the Tertiary flora of our continent, that, at a later date, palms grew in the same region where these Cretaceous plants are found; but cinnamons and other tropical plants seem to be entirely wanting in the Tertiary flora of the central part of the continent, while on the west coast both palms and cinnamons lived during the Tertiary period as far north as the British line. We have therefore negative evidence from the facts, though it may be reversed at an early day by further observations, that the climate of the interior of our continent during the Tertiary age was somewhat warmer than at the beginning of the Cretaceous period, and that during both the same relative differences of climate prevailed between the central and western portions that exist at the present day."

PARASITIC WORMS IN THE BRAIN OF A BIRD.†—One of the most obscure subjects in zoölogy is the history and development of animal parasites, and especially those which take up their abode in the brain of different animals. Prof. Wyman has detected a species of "round worm" in the brain of seventeen out of nineteen specimens of the *Anhinga* (Snake-bird

* Notes on the Later Extinct Floras of North America, with descriptions of some New Species of Fossil Plants from the Cretaceous and Tertiary Strata. By Prof. J. S. Newberry, of Columbia College, New York. 8vo, pp. 76.

† On a Thread-worm infesting the Brain of the Snake-bird." By Jeffries Wyman, M. D. (From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, October 7, 1868). 8vo, pp. 7.